What is claimed is:

1. A biopsy system comprising:

a first placeholder element insertable through tissue to a first selected location in a patient's body, the first placeholder element including a first element guide;

a tissue sampling element insertable to the first selected location via the first element guide for obtaining a sample of tissue from the first selected location, the tissue sampling element being removable from the first element guide while leaving the first placeholder element at the first selected location; and

a tissue treatment element insertable to the first selected location via the first element guide.

2. The system according to claim 1, further comprising a handle including a channel extending therethrough for receiving the first placeholder element, the channel directing elements inserted thereinto to the first element guide.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the handle includes a sampling element actuator for operating the tissue sampling element when the tissue sampling element has been inserted therethrough to the first element guide.

4. The system according to claim 3, wherein the handle further comprises a sampling safety lock which, when in a locked configuration, prevents actuation of the sampling element actuator.

5. The system according to claim 2, further comprising a second placeholder element insertable through tissue to a second selected location in a patient's body, the second placeholder element including a second element guide, the second placeholder element removably receivable in the channel.

6. The system according to claim 5, wherein the first and second placeholder elements comprise identification markings.

7. The system according to claim 1, wherein the first placeholder element comprises a hollow tubular member and wherein the element guide comprises a lumen of the hollow tubular member.

8. The system according to claim 5, further comprising a first luer attachment for coupling the first placeholder element to the channel.

9. The system according to claim 1, wherein the tissue sampling element comprises a biopsy needle.

10. The system according to claim 9, wherein the first element guide comprises a lumen extending through the first placeholder element and wherein the biopsy needle is insertable through the lumen.

11. The system according to claim 9, wherein the biopsy needle includes a suction lumen for applying suction to a sample of tissue for removal of the sample from the body.

12. The system according to claim 8, wherein the tissue sampling element comprises a second luer attachment for coupling the tissue sampling element to the channel.

13. The system according to claim 1, wherein the tissue sampling element further comprises an in-vivo tissue characterization device.

14. The system according to claim 1, wherein the tissue treatment element is insertable through a lumen of the placeholder element when the placeholder element is separate from the handle element.

15. The system according to claim 1, wherein the tissue treatment element comprises one of a monopolar and a bipolar electrode.

16. The system according to claim 14, wherein the electrode is a multi-barbed electrode.

17. The system according to claim 1, wherein the tissue treatment element comprises a conduit for insertion of a chemical treatment substance to the selected location.

18. The system according to claim 1, wherein the tissue treatment element is coupleable to a source of electric power and employs the first placeholder element as an electrode.

19. A method for treating tissue, comprising the steps of:

inserting a placeholder element into a body to a selected tissue location;

inserting to the selected location a tissue sampling element through a lumen of the placeholder element;

operating the tissue sampling element via a handle connected to the placeholder element;

detaching the handle from the placeholder element;

directing a tissue treatment element to the selected location via the placeholder element; and

operating the tissue treatment element to treat the tissue at the selected location.

20. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of connecting the handle element to the placeholder element with a luer.

21. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of inserting the tissue sampling element into a lumen of the placeholder element via a conduit in the handle.

22. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of actuating a tissue cutting portion of the tissue sampling element via a first control of the handle.

23. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of immobilizing a needle of the tissue sampling element with a second control of the handle.

24. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of analyzing a tissue sample retrieved using the tissue sampling element to diagnose a medical condition of the patient.

25. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of applying a chemical treatment substance to the selected location via the tissue treatment element.

26. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of applying radio frequency energy to the selected location via the tissue treatment element.

27. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the step of delivering to the selected location via the tissue treatment element at least one of laser energy, a high pressure water jet, a radiation dose and a chemical ablation substance.